(c) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids from about 1 to about 129 in SEQ ID NO:2;

(d) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97519;

(e) a polynucleotide encoding the mature chemokine β-15 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97519;

(f) the complement of (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e);

[(g) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (a), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (a);

(h) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (b), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (b);

(i) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (c), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (c);

(j) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (d), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (d);

(k) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (e), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (e);

(l) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (f), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (f);] and

[(m)] (g) a first polynucleotide which hybridizes under the conditions of [at] 42°C in 50 % formamide, 5xSSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH7.6), 5x Denhardt's solutions, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 µg/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA, followed by a wash at 65°C in a solution comprising 0.1x SSC, to a second polynucleotide having the nucleotide sequence of the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof; wherein said first polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide which retains substantially the same activity as a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

B1 Cont

~~45.~~ 13 (Once Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

B2

(a) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide consisting of amino acids from [about] -20 to [about] 129 in SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide consisting of amino acids from [about] -19 to [about] 129 in SEQ ID NO:2;

(c) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide consisting of amino acids from [about] 1 to [about] 129 in SEQ ID NO:2; and

(d) the complement of (a), (b), or (c)[;] .

[(e) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (a), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (a);

(f) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (b), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (b);

(g) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (c), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (c); and

(h) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (d), wherein:

(1) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(2) the number of alterations is equal to or less than 5 % of the total number of nucleotides present in (d).]

Please add the following new claims:

--65. An isolated nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes, under the stringent conditions of incubating overnight at 42°C in a solution comprising 50% formamide, 5x SSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5x Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 μg/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA; and washing at 65°C in a solution comprising 0.1x SSC, to a member selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids from -20 to 129 in SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids from -19 to 129 in SEQ ID NO:2;

(c) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids from 1 to 129 in SEQ ID NO:2; and

(d) the complement of (a), (b) or (c);

wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule encodes a polypeptide having substantially the same activity as a polypeptide consisting of amino acids 1 to 129 of SEQ ID NO:2.

66. 30 The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 65, 29 wherein said member is (a).

67. 31 The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 65, 29 wherein said member is (b).

68. 32 The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 65, 29 wherein said member is (c).

69. 33 The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 65, 29 wherein said member is (d).

70. 34 An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a first polynucleotide which hybridizes to the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97519, under conditions comprising:

(a) incubating overnight at 42°C in a solution comprising 50% formamide, 5x SSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5x Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 µg/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA; and

(b) washing at 65°C in a solution comprising 0.1x SSC;

wherein said first polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having substantially the same activity as the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97519.--